



### FARMERS CONFRONTED BY SAME CONDITION AS OTHERS

(Written Specially For The Bulletin.)

We will suppose, if you please, that there is a woolen mill somewhere in New England weaving woolen cloth. It sells this cloth to tailors who make it up into suits and sell the suits to you and me and the rest of the caboodle. This mill has been running for some years on down-

side time because the demand for its cloth was so insistent and prices offered so great that it could afford to work double times and pay double wages and still make money. Then, all of a sudden, the demand dropped off. People got tired of paying the tailors \$25 for \$12.50 suits; the tailors had to stop paying \$10 a yard for \$3.50 cloth; the mill had to stop working full time and let off half or two-thirds of its normal force.

The result was bad business for that particular mill and hard times in that particular mill village.

We will suppose again, if you please, a sheep farm with two or three thousand sheep, such as is in operation five miles from where I am writing. When the woolen mill to which it had been selling its fleeces had to slow down production it necessarily had to stop buying wool. Up to this time the sheep-raiser had been getting from sixty to seventy cents a pound for his wool and had been able to pay high prices for sheep fodder and high wages to labor. Now, they can't sell their wool for twelve cents a pound, and are having to borrow money at high interest to pay wages.

The result is pretty close to disaster for that particular sheep ranch and its owners.

Once more, if you please, we will suppose that there is a railroad running from a big grain and fruit and meat producing section to a group of cities containing several million grain and fruit and meat eaters. For some years this railroad was run by a group of government amateurs, who didn't care a cent whether it paid its way or not, so long as the generous

treasury of the United States footed its bills and recouped its losses. And, during the same years, the extravagantly paid millions of consumers didn't seem to care whether or not the railroads were charged for fuel and fruit and meat, so long as their wages kept hopping up two points every time the flour and fruit and meat market advanced one point. Then, again, all of a sudden, these consumers shut down on their orgy of spending. The railroads had hoisted wages beyond all reason, and then had hoisted transportation charges not only beyond all reason but beyond endurance. They had loaded the patient camel of a public till his back broke, and now they, the railroads, announce that they are going broke, too. Traffic has fallen off till it will no longer pay wages, to say nothing of interest and taxes and maintenance and dividends.

The result is a veritable howl from the railroads for relief lest they be driven into bankruptcy and the hands of receivers.

And now, while we're in the supposing business, let's suppose an Ararat potato farm. For some years potatoes had been selling at \$2.50 and even more per bushel on that farm. At such prices, the farmer could afford to pay \$30 a ton for \$30 fertilizer, and \$1 a day wages for \$1 a day work. In his case, too, the drop came. He suddenly found himself unable to sell his expensively manured and extravagantly cultivated tubers at even a dollar a bushel. He was lucky if he could get seventy-five cents for them hauled to and loaded at the railroad depot. Ten see, the consumers clamped the lid down on him, too. They refused to pay former prices, and the railroads refused to reduce excessive transportation charges. The city dealer had to take it out of the farm producer. That dealer certainly couldn't continue to pay the railroads increasingly high freight charges, and the potato-grower former high prices, and yet sell to his customers at constantly falling low prices. He couldn't coerce the railroads; he couldn't cajole his customers; so he skinned the farmer.

Which was quite according to the usual course, but—

This again resulted in leaving a half-fledged farmer not only practically disabled but exceeding sore and mad all through.

As a matter of fact, a whole lot of textile factories are running on half time or less and laying off half or two-thirds of their normal working force. The railroads all over the country are reducing in a similar way. During the past week I've kept count of eleven railroads and railroad supply shops which have announced lay-offs of not less than 500 men, some of them running to much higher

numbers.

Why are they doing this? Simply because they can't continue to pay the exorbitant high wages out of their lowering incomes. It is the same all over the mechanical field of industry.

Now, do you suppose that the farmer, alone of all employees, is going to keep on paying fancy wages for doubtful help, while his income is being cut even more deeply than that of factories and railroads?

If you do, you've got another thing coming to you. There is no reason why he should be asked to do such a thing. But, whether asked or not, he isn't going to do it. There are at least thirty-nine reasons for this.

The first one is that he can't.

The other thirty-eight may be omitted from present consideration. The average farmer is not a man of capital beyond that capital of muscle and energy which goes about in his boots. He has no reservoir to tap when the stream of receipts shrinks till it won't turn the mill-wheel. He has to get his dollar before he can spend it either for seeds or fertilizer or transportation or labor.

If he can't get it, he surely can't use it. You can't take something from nothing on a farm any more than in a shop or on a railroad track.

For years and years the citrus fruit industry of California has been pointed to with pride as an instance of what can be done with an American product when it is handled judiciously and with business acumen. But we aren't hearing that sort of talk now. Last summer, it is stated, the average wholesale price for a twenty-five dozen box of Italian lemons in New York city was \$2. At the same time, it cost the California grower \$2.70 to pick, pack and ship a similar box to the same city. That is, his labor and freight bills alone amounted to seventy cents more a box than Italian lemons were selling for on the same market. No consideration whatever is given in this comparison to the cost of maintaining the orchard and growing the fruit, or the value of the lemons themselves. And, of course, nose to the payment of the grower's own wages and the interest on his investment. Do you regard it as even remotely possible that this sort of thing will result in an increase of lemon growing in California?

A correspondent of The Country Gentleman, who has been spending some months in Europe studying the industrial conditions with special reference to his bearings on agriculture, after relating in detail some of the things he has noted over there, sums up the results of his observation in this caustic paragraph: "It is easy to see that the social conditions of Europe almost parallel

our own—the same vast increase in wages of the 'laboring men'; the same profiteers; the same gradual crushing of the middle-class people and those dependent on fixed incomes; the same silk-shirt and merino-wool and phonograph and player-piano crowd, spending money like intoxicated sloozers and absolutely heedless of the future."

From which it would seem that we are not the only pilgrims neck-deep in a Slough of Despond.

What are we going to do about it? How are we going to get out on dry land where we can scrape off our bearded garments and take a fresh start for somewhere?

You tell me, please. I don't know.

But, so far as the producing farmer is concerned, one thing seems fairly clear: If he's got to sell his products at his historic carrying-bolt reduction of "30 and 35 off" that price, he must be given an "80 and 25 off" reduction on the cost of producing. Or else he'll stop production. And what will the robin do then, poor thing?

As President Cleveland once remarked: "It is not a theory but a condition which confronts us."

The average farmer can raise enough pork and potatoes and cabbages and rutabagas to live on, after a fashion. But he isn't apt to be so well "fixed" that he can afford to pay more for raising surplus potatoes and lemons than he can get for the potatoes and lemons, when raised. There was a time when the man who killed the goose which laid golden eggs was regarded as injudicious. Just now, however, that man's descendants seem to be altogether too numerous.

THE FARMER.

The czar of Russia has the reputation of being the most extravagant of European monarchs as regards dress. The bill of his civil tailor is said to have bordered on \$10,000 a year, and that of his military tailor \$15,000.

### Savant Who Measured Great Star, Bethlehemseuse



Prof. Albert A. Michelson, University of Chicago scientist, whose paper on the size of Alpha Orionis has aroused much interest. Generally recognized as the foremost authority in the world on the subject of light, he has been internationally known as a scientist for more than thirty years. He won the Nobel Prize for Physics in 1907. He was born in Germany of Jewish parentage, and was educated in the United States, graduating from the U. S. Naval Academy in 1873.

Headaches from Slight Colds

GROVE'S Laxative BROMO QUININE Tablets relieve the Headache by curing the Cold. A tonic laxative and germ destroyer. The genuine bears the signature of E. W. Grove. (Be sure you get BROMO.) 30c.

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All our Shoes, Rubbers and Oxfords, marked at a very low figure for that day.

Before buying, see our window display for styles and prices.

Hundreds of Pairs for  
**\$1.00, \$1.25, \$1.50, \$2.00**  
and \$2.75.

## BARROW'S

90 MAIN STREET

### MISS MARY MACSWINEY ADDRESSED KANSAS HOUSE

Topeka, Kansas, Feb. 14.—Miss Mary MacSwiney, sister of the late Mayor of Cork addressed the Kansas house of representatives this afternoon in the interests of Irish freedom. The senate failed to adopt the house concurrent resolution inviting Miss MacSwiney to speak at a joint session.

### FORDNEY EMERGENCY TARIFF BILL BACK IN THE HOUSE

Washington, Feb. 17.—The Fordney emergency tariff bill, with its burden of senate amendments, got back to the house today only to get in a legislative jam, leaving its immediate future uncertain.

Soon after Chairman Fordney of the way and means committee had started for St. Augustine, Florida, to consult President-elect Harding about putting through a second emergency tariff as a stop-gap measure, Acting Chairman Green sought to complete the house formalities of sending the bill to conference. Obtaining recognition just before the house adjourned, Representative Green asked the house to disagree with the senate amendments and that a conference committee be named. Representative Treadway, republican, Massachusetts, failed to give the necessary unanimous consent and busy conference followed. Failing to get the Massachusetts member to withhold objection, Mr. Green enlisted the support of Representative Mondell, republican floor leader, who also attempted to untangle the situation, but nothing came of it.

The Fordney bill thus was left overlight with three possibilities, all depending upon the maneuvers by republican a vote of the house, referred again to the ways and means committee, or an attempt may be made to have the house concur in the senate amendments.

### BRIEF STATE NEWS

Danbury.—Carl J. Moss, operator in the local office of the Western Union Telegraph company for several years, has been transferred to the Ansonia office of the company.

Bridgewater.—The superior court for Fairfield county, criminal side, is in session with 37 cases on the docket, including four murder cases. Judge John P. Kellogg is presiding.

Manchester.—At the office of the Manchester Lumber company it was announced last week that there would be a general cut in the price of all classes of coal of \$1 per ton.

Southampton.—At a meeting of the American Legion Monday evening it was voted to open a charter for a woman's auxiliary of the local post. Ten signatures will be required.

Wethersfield.—Mrs. Harriet Chapman, widow of John Chapman, inventor of knitting machinery, died in the almshouse at Wethersfield Sunday. She was born in England and was 100 years old last April 2.

Middletown.—J. Vincent Dempsey, secretary of the Chamber of Commerce, who was operated on recently at the Middlesex hospital for appendicitis, was at the office of the chamber for a short time Tuesday.

Danbury.—Mrs. A. Shelton Davenport of Farview avenue has been awarded the prize for the best target in last week's rifle shooting contest for women held at the Pinehurst Gun club, Pinehurst, N. C. Mrs. Davenport registered 137 points out of a possible 150.

Hartford.—Mr. and Mrs. John W. Kane quickly observed the 50th anniversary of their wedding at their home, No. 245 Sigourney street, Saturday. Mr. Kane and Julia Riordan Kane of Norfolk until two years ago, when they moved to this city, were married at Winsted Feb. 12, 1871, by Rev. Anacleto, O. F. M., Norfolk at that time being a mission of Winsted.

### MINORITY REPORT FILED ON CALDER COAL HEARING

Washington, Feb. 17.—Sweeping and drastic federal regulation of the coal industry at this time is unjustified, Senator Gay, democrat, Louisiana, said in a minority report filed today and based on the Calder committee's investigation of that industry. "The majority members of the committee brought forward the pending coal regulation measure."

The Louisiana senator charged that the majority was "endeavoring to put through hurriedly a great departure in industrial control with the most superficial investigation," adding that the installation of a license system for business concerns dealing in coal would set a precedent for legislation in other industries.

Without defending "profiteering during the shortage last summer," he said that the "coal industry was peculiarly dependent on transportation" and that with proper attention to railroad conditions another scarcity could not develop.

# OFFICIAL DOLLAR DAY

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### It Is a Day for the Merchant To Prove His Skill

SAME BARGAINS FOR ALL THE STORES—NORWICH, WILLIMANTIC, DANIELSON, PUTNAM

4 PAIR OF JERSEY BLOOMERS FOR \$1.00	WORTH 39c A PAIR
4 BUST CONFINERS FOR \$1.00	WORTH 39c EACH
2 OUTING FLANNEL BLOOMERS FOR \$1.00	WORTH 69c A PAIR
2 LADIES' EMBROIDERED PETTICOATS (Dust Ruffles) FOR \$1.00	WORTH \$1.25 EACH
3 EXTRA HEAVY UNDERWEAR FOR \$1.00	WORTH \$1.00 EACH
2 LADIES' BUNGALOW APRONS FOR \$1.00	WORTH \$1.00 EACH
2 LADIES' LAWN WAISTS FOR \$1.00	WORTH \$1.00 EACH
3 CORSET COVERS (Embroidered) FOR \$1.00	WORTH \$1.00 EACH
8 PAIR LADIES' FAST BLACK HOSE FOR \$1.00	WORTH 59c A PAIR
8 PAIRS CHILDREN'S HOSE FOR \$1.00	WORTH 59c A PAIR
10 PAIRS MEN'S SOCKS FOR \$1.00	WORTH 25c A PAIR
3 PAIRS LADIES' SEAM BACK LISLE HOSE FOR \$1.00	WORTH 25c A PAIR
2 PAIRS LADIES' SILK AND WOOL SPORT HOSE FOR \$1.00	WORTH 69c A PAIR
3 PAIRS LADIES' SILK BOOT HOSE FOR \$1.00	WORTH 59c A PAIR
2 MARY PICKFORD APRONS FOR \$1.00	WORTH 69c EACH
2 CHILDREN'S OUTING FLANNEL DRESSES FOR \$1.00	WORTH \$1.00 EACH
2 CHILDREN'S ROMPERS FOR \$1.00	WORTH \$1.00 EACH
4 LADIES' GINGHAM APRONS FOR \$1.00	WORTH 50c EACH
2 LADIES' MUSLIN GOWNS FOR \$1.00	WORTH \$1.00 EACH
2 PAIRS LADIES' MUSLIN DRAWERS FOR \$1.00	WORTH \$1.00 A PAIR

### WEDDING DRESSES, SILK DRESSES, AND A FEW ODD COATS—

at \$1.00 each

Extra Heavy OUTING FLANNEL GOWNS (reg. and extra sizes)—1 FOR \$1.00	WORTH \$2.98
LADIES' AND CHILDREN'S UNION SUITS (all sizes)—1 FOR \$1.00	WORTH \$1.59
LADIES' HOUSE DRESSES (indigo and light)—1 FOR \$1.00	WORTH \$2.98
THE BEST ALL-OVER APRONS—1 FOR \$1.00	WORTH \$2.00
LADIES' COLORED PETTICOATS—1 FOR \$1.00	WORTH \$2.50
WONDERFUL PETTICOATS, NIGHT GOWNS, CHEMISE—1 FOR \$1.00	WORTH \$2.00
LADIES' AND MEN'S SWEATERS—1 FOR \$1.00	WORTH \$3.50
BLACK BUNGALOW APRONS (elastic belt)—1 FOR \$1.00	WORTH \$2.00
LADIES' CORSETS (short or long)—1 FOR \$1.00	WORTH \$2.00
LADIES' AND CHILDREN'S MIDDIES—1 FOR \$1.00	WORTH \$2.00
CHILDREN'S JERSEY WORSTED LEGGIN' DRAWERS—1 FOR \$1.00	WORTH \$2.00
CHILDREN'S WHITE LAWN DRESSES—1 FOR \$1.00	WORTH \$3.50
BOYS' WASH SUITS—1 FOR \$1.00	WORTH \$2.50
CHILDREN'S GINGHAM DRESSES—1 FOR \$1.00	WORTH \$2.00
VERY LARGE TEDDY BEARS AND SLEEPING DOLLS—1 FOR \$1.00	WORTH \$3.98
LEATHERETTE SUIT CASES FOR \$1.00	WORTH \$3.00
CHILDREN'S ALL-WOOL SWEATERS FOR \$1.00	WORTH \$3.00

### AND BESIDES

LADIES' ALL-COTTON SERGE DRESSES	FOR \$5.00
LADIES' PLAID SKIRTS	FOR \$2.00
LADIES' SILK POPLIN SKIRTS	FOR \$3.00

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ANY LADIES' COAT—YOUR FIGURE IS OUR FIGURE

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WE WANT TEN EXTRA HELP IN EACH STORE FOR THIS DAY.

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